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And hers who, for so long, beside him shone,  
True-hearted, and may fitly share the wreath  
Of fame that crowns him. Health, achievement, love;  
These blessed his life, and on his soul serene  
(As vouching their continuance after death)  
Forever rested, like a brooding dove,  
The promise of the gentle Nazarene!

*Washington, D. C.*

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## Notes on North American willows. II.

M. S. BEBB.

(WITH PLATE X.)

**Salix phylicoides** And.—A willow, known of late years as by no means rare in Alaska and on the adjacent shores of Eastern Siberia, was first described by Andersson in his preliminary Synopsis of North American Willows, under the above name, given in allusion to the manifest resemblance which the species bears to *S. phylicifolia*. Subsequently, the same author divided Seeman's specimens, upon which exclusively the species was founded, making of all those which exhibited normally developed aments a second new species, *S. fulcrata*, and retaining the original name, *S. phylicoides*, for a single gathering of a bare half-dozen specimens, all told, made by Seeman at "Awatschka Bay, August, 1848." These, evidently taken from the same plant, present the anomaly, very noticeable in an arctic willow, of aments accompanying full-grown leaves. Prof. Andersson did not overlook the abnormal character of this retarded inflorescence, and it is, therefore, all the more surprising that he failed to appreciate the significance of the fact that most of the capsules are empty and that the few which do contain a little pappus produce no seeds. The diminutive size, to which an exaggerated importance is given in the description, is simply due to non-fertilization! If proof were needed of this I might cite a specimen in the Gray herbarium which, along with the "rectangularly veined" lanceolate-acuminate leaves of the Prodrum *S. phylicoides*, bears one imperfectly fertilized ament, capsules as in Seeman's Awatschka Bay plant and another fully fertilized ament with capsules 2-3 lines long—leaves and fruit of *S. phylicoides*, and on the same twig an ament of *S. fulcrata*!

The species varies much in stature and habit. On the southern shores of Alaska it is apparently a stout bush with



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BEBB on SALIX PHYLICOIDES AND.

erect branches from a decumbent trunk. On the northern shore—Point Barrow, etc.—it is a small prostrate shrub, spreading over two or three feet, but keeping close to the surface of the ground. The leaves vary in outline from lanceolate to elliptic, entire or obscurely serrulate, the aments from oblong to narrowly cylindrical with or without bracts, no one of these characters being constantly associated with any peculiar veining of the leaves.

The long linear-lanceolate stipules constitute a distinguishing feature, and, clinging to the stems as they do for two or three years, often render possible the identification of staminate aments unaccompanied by leaves.

Without understanding the shifting about which Seeman's specimens received in Andersson's hands, the student is likely to be mystified by the inconsistencies of the three consecutive descriptions given. For instance, we have, first, in the *Salices Boreali-Americanae* "capsulae 2-3 lineas longae;" next in the *Monographia Salicum* "capsulae lineam longae;" and finally in De Candolle's *Prodromus* "capsulae semi-lineam longae." From three lines to half a line and not a word to indicate that the *phylicoides* of the final description is other than the *phylicoides* of the first! Nay, in the final description reference is directly made to the original publication in the *Sal. Bor.-Amer.*, while on the opposite page under *S. fulcrata* we read: "*Huc forsam etiam pertinet S. phylicoides, Anders. Sal. Bor.-Amer.*" Happily, we now know, if Prof. Andersson did not, that all this confusion falls within the limits of a single species for which *S. phylicoides* is the oldest name; happily, too, the original description recognizes only the normal character of the species and altogether ignores the imperfect development exhibited by a few chance specimens.

### *Rockford, Ill.*

EXPLANATION OF PLATE X.—Figs. 1-7. Seeman's plant, "N. W. America," type of *S. phylicoides* and afterwards of *S. fulcrata*, from fragments given me by Sir Joseph D. Hooker, accompanied by tracings and sketches by Prof. Oliver; 1, 2, leaves; 3, capsules  $\times 6$ ; 4, ament; 5, stipule  $\times 3$ ; 6, scale  $\times 6$ ; 7, emarginate stigmas  $\times 6$ .

Figs. 8-10. Plant coll. McKay, Nushagak, Alaska; 8, leaves; 9, lower portion of a large ament to show the leafy peduncle; 10, 11, capsules of *S. phylicoides* And. DC. Prod., abortive, from Seeman's Awatschka Bay plant!

Figs. 12-15. Coll. Harrington, Nagai Island, Shumagins (Herb. Gray); 12, leaf showing "rectangular veining;" 13, capsule normally developed  $\times 6$ ; 14, capsule from the same plant, abortive (like the *Prodromus S. phylicoides*  $\times 6$ ); 15, stipule  $\times 3$ .